

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Entry of the foregoing amendment is requested for the purpose of placing the application in condition for allowance, or alternatively, in better condition for appeal.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the Final Official Action of October 20, 2005, relating to the above-identified application. It is noted with appreciation that the previous rejections of Claims 1 and 7 have been withdrawn.

The Examiner is thanked for pointing out the typographical error in Claim 1. This, and a similar typographical error in Claim 7, has been corrected by the foregoing amendment. No new matter or new issues are presented.

It is believed the objections to the claims have been overcome.

A petition for a one-month extension of time, together with the associated fee is filed herewith.

The rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by *Hoffman II* (US 6,061,068) is traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 calls for an integrated view system comprising:

- at least one stereo-camera installed in a vehicle for taking images of predetermined outside area;

- a stereo-image recognizer for processing a pair of images taken by the stereo-camera to recognize objects that are obstacles to the front, thus generating obstacle data;

- a geographical image generator for generating a geographical image viewed from viewing points of a pilot or crew;

- an integrated view data generator for generating integrated view data including three-dimensional view data based on the pair of images taken by the stereo-camera, the obstacle data including at least one symbolized obstacle or one

emphasized obstacle from the stereo-image recognizer; and the geographical image from the geographical image generator; and
an integrated image display for displaying the integrated view data as visible images by overlapping with an actual view from a cockpit.

Notwithstanding that the Final Office Action attempts to correlate the elements of applicants' Claim 9 with the disclosure of *Hoffman II*, the cited reference falls short of an anticipation of the claimed subject matter for the following reasons:

Hoffman II does not disclose an integrated view system in which there is "a geographical image generator for generating a geographical image viewed from viewing points of a pilot or crew" as specified by Claim 9.

In the Final Action, on page 4, lines 8-9, it is said that "a common coordinate transformed measured image set that represents actual geographical terrain imagery" of *Hoffman II* corresponds to the "geographical image viewed from viewing points of a pilot or crew" of Claim 9. However, "a common coordinate transformed measured image set that represents actual geographical terrain imagery" of *Hoffman II* only corresponds to "a geographical image" and does not correspond to "a geographical image viewed from the viewing points of a pilot or crew" using the system.

Hoffman II does not disclose "the obstacle data including at least one symbolized obstacle or one emphasized obstacle" as specified in the penultimate paragraph of Claim 9.

In support of the rejection, the Final Action argues (page 4, line 5), that the word "symbolized" and the word "virtual" have the same meaning.

However, according to *The Concise Oxford Dictionary*, Sixth Edition, the words have the following meanings.

symbolize:	be a symbol of, represent by means of symbols
symbol:	mark or characters taken as the convention sign of some object or idea or process, e.g. the astronomical signs for the planets, the letters standing for chemical elements, musical notation, the mathematical signs for addition and infinity, the asterisk.

The term “virtual” with reference to an image is defined in the *Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary* as: “an image (as seen in a plane mirror) formed of points from which divergent rays (as of light) seem to emanate without actually doing so.” See also the online definition from *Britannica* attached.

Therefore, even if *Hoffman II* disclose a “virtual object”, *Hoffman II* does not disclose the “symbolized obstacle” of the present Claim 9.

Hoffman II does not disclose “an integrated image display for displaying the integrated view data as visible images by overlapping with an actual view from cockpit” as specified by Claim 9.

The Final Action notes on page 4, last line of the Office Action, that “the integrated data includes the actual view” in *Hoffman II*.

However, what are included in “the integrated data” of *Hoffman II* are “the real image information” and “the virtual image information”. Since the “real image information” of *Hoffman II* is based on information from the sensor, the “real image information” of *Hoffman II* does not correspond to the “actual view from cockpit” of Claim 9.

Therefore, “the integrated data” of *Hoffman II* does not include “the actual view from a cockpit” as specified by Claim 9.

Consequently, it can be seen that *Hoffman II* fails to describe a number of features of Claim 9 and, therefore, falls short of an anticipation of that claim. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

The rejection of Claims 1 to 3 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 calls for an integrated view system comprising:

- at least one stereo-camera installed in a vehicle for taking images of predetermined outside area;

- a stereo-image recognizer for processing a pair of images taken by the stereo-camera to recognize objects that are obstacles to the front, thus generating obstacle data;

- an integrated view data generator for generating integrated view data including three-dimensional view data based on the pair of images taken by the stereo-camera and the obstacle data from the stereo-image recognizer; and

- an integrated image display for displaying the integrated view data as visible images to crew in the vehicle,

- wherein the integrated view data generator is capable of removing the three-dimensional view data from the integrated view data by turning off the stereo-camera while retaining the obstacle data.

In addition to the remarks made above with respect to *Hoffman II*, kindly note that *Hoffman II* does not disclose nor suggest at least the following limitations of Claims 1 and 7:

“wherein the integrated view data generator is capable of removing the three-dimensional vision data from the integrated view data by turning off the stereo-camera while retaining the obstacle data”.

The Final Action argues on page 6, lines 14-16, that “when the image data from the sensor system is ‘unreliable’, the virtual object data is utilized in lieu of the sensor data or a combination of the sensor and virtual data, thereby removing the fused real-imaging data and retaining only virtual objects” in *Hoffman II*.

Notwithstanding that, *Hoffman II* fails to motivate a person skilled in the art to make the necessary changes to arrive at the subject matter of Claims 1-3 and 7. It is important to point out that “the virtual object data” of *Hoffman II* is stored in “a virtual data based 23” (col. 3, lines 43-44 of *Hoffman II*), so that “the virtual object data” of *Hoffman II* does not correspond to the “obstacle data” generated by “a stereo-image recognizer” of Claims 1 and 7.


Favorable action at the Examiner’s earliest convenience is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP


By: 
Robert G. Weilacher, Reg. No. 20,531


Suite 3100, Promenade II
1230 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3592
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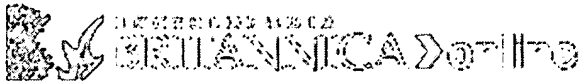



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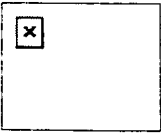
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General considerations
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Main Entry: **virtual image**

Function: *noun*

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